AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

at least one reconfigurable processing device;

at least one authentication processing device; and

at least one interface processing device to be coupled to at least one of said at least one reconfigurable processing device and said at least one authentication processing device;

wherein ~~the apparatus~~ said at least one interface processing device is adapted to forward information to configure at least one of said at least one reconfigurable processing device and said at least one interface processing device, received by said ~~apparatus~~ at least one interface processing device, to said at least one authentication processing device to verify that the information came from an authorized source.

2. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said at least one interface processing device comprises at least one of a data firewall and a configuration firewall.

3. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein said at least one interface processing device includes one or more data node registers to configure said at least one data firewall to permit forwarding of data to at least one of said at least one reconfigurable processing device.

4. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:

at least one reconfigurable processing device;

at least one authentication processing device;

at least one interface processing device to be coupled to at least one of said at least one reconfigurable processing device and said at least one authentication processing device;

at least one analog front-end device to be coupled to at least one of said at least one reconfigurable processing device; [[and]]

an antenna selected from the group consisting of monopole antennas, dipole antennas, antenna arrays, loop antennas, planar antennas, and reflector-type antennas coupled to said at least one analog front-end device; [[.]]

wherein ~~the system~~ said at least one interface processing device is adapted to forward information to configure at least one of said at least one reconfigurable processing device and said at least one interface processing device, received by ~~the system~~ said at least one interface processing device, to said at least one authentication processing device to verify that the information came from an authorized source.

5. (Original) The system according to Claim 4, further comprising:

at least one host device to be coupled to said at least one interface processing device, the at least one host device adapted to provide information to be processed by at least one of said at least one reconfigurable processing device.

6. (Original) The system according to Claim 4, further comprising:

at least one analog front-end interface device to couple between at least one of said at least one reconfigurable processing device and said at least one analog front-end device.

7. (Original) A method, comprising:

processing received information with a processing device specified by said received information if said received information comprises data and if the processing device is authorized to process said received information; and

performing an authentication process on said received information if said received information does not comprise data for transmission.

8. (Original) The method according to Claim 7, wherein said performing an authentication process comprises:

forwarding said received information to an authentication device if said received information comprises a request to authorize one or more processing devices to process received information.

9. (Original) The method according to Claim 8, wherein said performing an authentication process further comprises:

forwarding at least a portion of said received information to a received information interface device; and

configuring said received information interface device based at least in part on said at least a portion of said received information.

10. (Original) The method according to Claim 7, wherein said performing an authentication process comprises:

verifying that said received information is addressed to an authentication processing device if said received information comprises processing device configuration information; and

taking security measures if said received information is not addressed to an authentication processing device.

11. (Original) The method according to Claim 10, wherein said taking security measures comprises:

re-addressing said received information to an authentication processing device.

12. (Original) The method according to Claim 10, wherein said taking security measures comprises at least one of discarding said received information or performing a reset operation.

13. (Original) The method according to Claim 7, wherein, if said received information comprises processing device configuration information, said performing an authentication process comprises:

verifying a primary signature included in said received information; and

verifying a link signature included in said received information if said primary signature is valid.

14. (Original) The method according to Claim 13, further comprising:

forwarding at least a portion of said received information to an intended processing device if said link signature is valid; and

using said at least a portion of said received information to configure said intended processing device.

15. (Original) A machine-accessible medium containing software code, which, when executed by a computing platform, causes said computing platform to perform a method comprising:

processing received information with a processing device specified by said received information if said received information comprises data and if the processing device is authorized to process said received information; and

performing an authentication process on said received information if said received information does not comprise data for transmission.

16. (Original) The machine-accessible medium according to Claim 15, wherein said performing an authentication process comprises:

forwarding said received information to an authentication device if said received information comprises a request to authorize one or more processing devices to process received information.

17. (Original) The machine-accessible medium according to Claim 16, wherein said performing an authentication process further comprises:

forwarding at least a portion of said received information to a received information interface device; and

configuring said received information interface device based at least in part on said at least a portion of said received information.

18. (Original) The machine-accessible medium according to Claim 15, wherein said performing an authentication process comprises:

verifying that said received information is addressed to an authentication processing device if said received information comprises processing device configuration information; and

taking security measures if said received information is not addressed to an authentication processing device.

19. (Original) The machine-accessible medium according to Claim 18, wherein said taking security measures comprises:

re-addressing said received information to an authentication processing device.

20. (Original) The machine-accessible medium according to Claim 18, wherein said taking security measures comprises at least one of discarding said received information or performing a reset operation.

21. (Original) The machine-accessible medium according to Claim 15, wherein, if said received information comprises processing device configuration information, said performing an authentication process comprises:

verifying a primary signature included in said received information; and

verifying a link signature included in said received information if said primary signature is valid.

22. (Original) The machine-accessible medium according to Claim 21, further comprising software code that, when executed by said at least one computing platform, causes said at least one computing platform to further perform:

forwarding at least a portion of said received information to an intended processing device if said link signature is valid; and

using said at least a portion of said received information to configure said intended processing device.